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ROYAL RECOLLECTIONS

ON

A TOUR TO CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTER, WORCESTER,

AND PLACES ADJACENT,

IN THE YEAR 1788.

THE SIXTH EDITION.

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Royal Recollections, &c.

RECOLLECTION I.

OF ROYAL LITERATURE.

I AM the firſt in the direct line of my illuſtrious houſe, who has ventured into the republic of letters. Republic! I like not the word---I ſhall aſk Hurd how it came to be introduced:---Wiſh my governor and preceptors, inſtead of contending about my management, had taught me a little Latin and Greek! When I ſee them ſcattered through a book, I have great curioſity to know their meaning; and they are almoſt the only things about which I am aſhamed to aſk queſtions. Hurd has not done much better by George. Ah!---why do I feel a pang at that name? Am I not a good father!---Let me recollect. No;---I will not recollect on the ſubject.

James I. was an author. I wiſh I had Walpole's catalogue. I may be inſerted in it:---but I ſhall outlive Walpole.

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The great Frederick has been to me, as Alexander to Charles XII.---an object of emulation;---not for his battles and wars, for which I have no inclinations; but for his ſummary, and military power; for his diſcipline and reviews; and for his fame as an author. Fifteen volumes of his works are publiſhing, and by ſubſcription. Charlotte applauds the ſubſcription. I may leave as many volumes behind me; and, if Charlotte ſurvive, I warrant the ſubſcription.

The title of my firſt literary production has puzzled me. I ſuppoſe it puzzles all authors. If I call it hiſtory, it may make no great figure by the hiſtories of Hume, Robertſon, and Gibbon. Memoirs are French; and occupied by the great Frederick. *Recollections* are new, except in trifling matters; and novelty will recommend. I hope my book will ſell. It would diſcourage me to loſe by my firſt adventure; and Charlotte would point to the children, and look grave.

RECOLLECTION II.

REASONS OF MY TOUR.

SLEEP is a bleſſing which ſeems to have forſaken my houſe; I mean the houſe of Hanover;---for my attendants and domeſtics are ſufficiently ſleepy, God knows! I love to rouze the whole family before the people are warm

warm in bed. If the eſſence of the ſoul conſiſts in motion, mine is the moſt diſtinguiſhed in England. My brother Cumberland approaches neareſt to me in reſtleſſneſs, and diſregard of ſleep. Jenkinſon ſays I reſemble Juſtinian, who allowed himſelf but one hour in bed; lived principally on vegetables; and ſpent one third of his time in devotion. I ſpend no private hours in devotion; all my religious light is ſeen; and my diet is regulated, not by ſcruples, but by health.

I am now looking down the vale of life; have been ſix and twenty years the monarch of a great and turbulent people; and in the factions which have diſturbed my reign, I have been ſometimes in the majority, ſometimes in the minority. It is a ſtrange ſituation; and I often ſuſpect I have been held in it by diſhoneſty.

The introduction of my family was not by univerſal conſent; and there were ſome pretences for adopting the views of party in church and ſtate, to ſecure a permanent intereſt. In me, born a Briton!---nobler principles ſhould have been cultivated:---but the wiſdom of my mother thought otherwiſe. She conſigned me to a prieſt, and a borough monger; and I ſhall ever be the leader only of a party.

In a period of ſeventy years, the houſe of Hanover has not been familiarized to Great Britain. My two predeceſſors, brave and worthy

worthy men! were ſtrangers to the country they nominally governed; and if they moved from the fetid vortex of the capital, it was to gratify a fondneſs for their native ſoil. I was left in a blaze of falſe glory, under the power of Chatham, who had frequently wreſted the government from my grand-father; and who inſulted my youth and ignorance, ſecure in the infatuation of multitudes.

Lord Bute would have diſpelled the faſcination of that impoſtor, but he had not talents; and the ſtruggle ſunk me into diſgrace.

The Scots, like hungry locuſts ſurrounded me. The ſources of venality were drained, and the Scots were unſatisfied.---The oppreſſion of America was propoſed, under the idea of concentrating power; but with the view of obtaining appointments for Scotſmen. I was deluded by the idea; and wiſhed to rid myſelf of importunities, by offices and taxes, which would have ruined the colonies. Half my ſubjects revolted at the thought of taxes, without the appearance of repreſentation. I was lampooned and libelled here; ſometimes hooted and inſulted; engaged in a war of jobs in America; and was really afraid to ſtir out of my palaces.

I contented myſelf with travelling on maps. I paſſed the ſurface of Scotland, inſtructed in all its beauties by Bute; and I fought every inch neceſſary to the conqueſt of America, with Sackville. Poor Sackville! we ſympathiſed in unpopularity. He was a milder inſtructor

ſtructor than Bute; and he fought bravely on a map! The hills which terminate the horizon of Windſor, have been hitherto, to me, the boundaries of the world; and I feel awkwardly at the thoughts of paſſing them. Peaſants and artiſans, I have been thought to conſider as enemies! and they have been grievouſly burthened, to enrich a ſucceſſion of venal majorities in my inſatiable parliaments.—What humour they may be in, and how they may receive me, are ſerious queſtions.

Jenkinſon treats theſe apprehenſions lightly:—"Aſſume a ſacred character, and put "on a brilliant appearance. Though you "drain the blood of the people, they will "adore you as you paſs!" On this account, Jenkinſon wiſhed to be a lord. The word Jenkinſon, was aſſociated in the public mind, with perfidious unconſtitutional chicane, and with every ſpecies of political guilt. He could not paſs a turnpike without a ſcowl or an inſult; and the villages ſet their dogs at him. At the ſound of lord Hawkeſbury, every hat is off, and every head to the ground!

This Hawkeſbury is a ſingular character! Indeed all whom I have apparently diſtinguiſhed by my favour, are ſingularities. In reality, no man has my confidence. An object has ariſen, on which I have fixed my heart; and my attachments have been regulated by compliance with my views.—Poor North! docile and flexible, more from good humour

humour than interefted ambition, he thought himfelf permanently fixed; and if he had fucceeded in America, he would have been minifter for life. He faw not before him; and was fo much the dupe of Robinfon, and parliamentary brokers; that he extended to the army which invaded America, the maxims of venality and the fpeculations of party; and funk into difgrace with the objects of his purfuit.

I was ftunned by the event; and expected to be the object of general hatred:---but I have been agreeably difappointed. I loft a dominion equal to Europe in extent; fufceptible of advantages beyond the reach of imagination: but fo managed as to become burthenfome to the public, and teazing to me!---and the lofs was not felt.---Flimzy politicians, feeing only the inconvenience of abufes, rejoiced in the feparation; and profperity has nearly obliterated the folly.

Jenkinfon is worth all my fervants, in patient attention to little advantages; in watching the fluctuations of great paffions; and accommodating every thing to my views. He has mingled and incorporated the difcordant ingredients of parties, fo as nearly to deftroy their credit; and I may venture into the country with hopes of good reception.

My health is ferioufly injured. Twenty-fix years of contention and warfare with my people, terminated with fuch a lofs, have almoft annihilated the habit of fleep; and rendered

rendered my diſpoſition reſtleſs. Furious walking, riding, and hunting, conſume my time, and deſtroy my attendants and horſes; but they furniſh not peace of mind, or refreſhing intervals of bodily repoſe.

In this ſtate I am adviſed to Cheltenham; to unite policy with my active curioſity; and to aſſiſt in clearing the country of thoſe clouds which the approach of a general election is collecting.

And what is the event of an election to me? Why ſhould I be entangled in the ſtruggles of intereſted parties? What is the object of theſe parties? To be brought to market; and I am the purchaſer.---I wiſh I had patience to read. Nothing to my imagination is more diſtinct, than the executive and legiſlative provinces. Nor do I think laws without my interference, would be the more likely to be directed againſt any of my real intereſts. But miniſters and cabinets are aghaſt when I intimate wearineſs of parliamentary influence :-- they quote Monteſquieu and Blackſtone; and frighten me with imaginary dangers.

I have waded ſo far in the waters of corruption, that I muſt not think of tracing back my ſteps ;---and I will ſhew myſelf in the country, *for the benefit of the general election.*

RECOLLECTION III.

OXFORD, BLENHEIM, &c.

I RECOLLECT when firſt I approached Oxford, that I felt a ſpecies of ſhame, from a confined education. The idea of the immortal Alfred ſtruck forcibly on my mind, who was born to create, combine, and eſtabliſh,---as I have been to ſever and deſtroy. The mind which delineated the Britiſh conſtitution, founded the univerſity of Oxford: ---the former, the moſt beautiful effort of human reaſon;---the latter, the moſt magnificent univerſity in the world:---both languiſhing in my reign. No mode, which artful venality could contrive, has been untried on the political conſtitution of England; and I am fifty years of age, without having ſeen Oxford, or thought of it, but at general elections.

The number and magnificence of the colleges, halls, libraries, and ſchools; and the opulence of their appointments, aſtoniſhed me, even beyond the conviction of their diſproportionate utility. Oxford, to diſcharge its obligations, ſhould have thirty or forty thouſand ſtudents; and it ſeldom has one thouſand. Since the acceſſion of the Hanover family, it has not harmoniſed with the court:---and when introduced among the memorials of ancient kings, I appeared a ſtranger, and not of their kindred.

It

It is true, Oxford ſtands not in need of bounty and aſſiſtance; it wants reformation and diſcipline only, to anſwer the intention of its founders. But who will attempt that reformation againſt indolent habits ſo inveterate, and opulence ſo ſecured?

I ſhould like to enroll my name among the Edwards and Henrys, who have rendered ſervices to this noble inſtitution---but it will not be my fate. I expended an hundred millions in attempting to reduce America to ſlavery:---this will be my everlaſting memorial!

Every thing here wears an air of ſuperſtitious profligacy. The bells are tolling for devotion every hour of the day; monkiſh dreſſes and forms, every moment meet the eye; but not a face indicates religious ſentiments:---the ſtudents have ſauntering idle manners, and the countenances of the profeſſors are all on fire.

My beloved architecture has been cultivated here. I toil through the extenſive vocabulary of vertù; but I believe it is without ideas. I ſhould certainly have made a good architect! The grandeur of Chriſt Church, the elegance of Queen's, and the beauty of the Theatre, delight me. Why has not the roof of the Theatre been imitated? The allegory of Truth, ſolicited by the deſcending ſciences, is well imagined: but intereſt ſhould be ſubſtituted for truth. I love the church;---it is the firm ſupport of that ſpecies of royalty for which Charles died, and for which

my illuſtrious houſe has been gradually forming a paſſion: but it muſt be confeſſed, that intereſt is eminently the eccleſiaſtical principle of action. I can influence laymen by various motives---I can ſecure a churchman only by one.

But I will turn my thoughts from theſe gloomy ſubjects, and recollect the impreſſions of Blenheim.

It has been the ſingular misfortune of my reign;---with an expenditure beyond example in the annals of the world, I have been eclipſed by private noblemen in ſplendor and generoſity. It is true, I have ſaved millions, as proviſion for the worſt events; and I would not have all my ſubjects know they are guarded in foreign banks, and cheriſh foreign circulations. It was Charlotte's favourite plan; and it conſtitutes a kind of independence. I have aſked George, in a witty frolic. "What would you do, George, "with five and twenty millions, if you could "immediately command them?" He heſitated:---"Your majeſty will be offended." "No, no; ſpeak your mind!" I thought he meant to build and furniſh an haram. "I "would pay them to the laſt ſhilling to-"wards diſcharging the national debt!" I burſt into a laugh at the romantic folly of the youth. "What! return the money "whence it came!" He was irritated at my mirth. "Yes, Sir; and mitigate the mi-"ſeries occaſioned by its accumulation." "Come, George," ſaid I, don't affect pa-

"triotiſm:

" triotiſm; the national debt is in a way to " be paid." " What by accumulating the " public burthens? If I could reconcile " myſelf to ſuch hypocriſy, I would expend " ten millions a year, and every farthing " ſhould go to the encouragement of induſ- " try and talents in my own country!" and he abruptly left me; but with that conciliating grace, which no temper can reſiſt; and which, united with prudence, will render him the moſt popular king in the world.

To return to Blenheim---The ground has been royal; and the ſtory of Henry and Roſamond throws over it the air of romance. The infirmities of love have ever been thoſe of great minds. I have not thoſe indications; but they abound in my ſon.

The high ſtile affected by the family of Marlborough; the diſdainful epithets with which old Sarah ever alluded to the houſe of Hanover; the liberal ſtate with which Blenheim has been ſupported; and the magnificent encouragements occaſionally given to the progreſs of ſcience at Oxford, impreſſed me with ſentiments of diſparity unbecoming my ſituation; and when the park gates were thrown open, and preſented the noble view of the palace and landſcape, I felt not like a great king viſiting a ſubject.

It is true, the preſent owner inherits the prudence only, not the genius, of the great Marlborough. In the obſtructions of lineal deſcent, all brilliant talents were loſt; but worth.

worth, decorum, and domeſtic virtues, compenſate the defect; and an extenſive influence, mildly applied, renders Marlborough great and reſpectable in this country. He leans towards the adminiſtration of the day, from conſtitutional prudence; and we have nothing to apprehend, unleſs Bedford ſhould fix his heart on one of his daughters.

I was charmed with the coup d'oeil at the entrance into the park; but ſtarted at the buſt of Louis XIV. at the front. Elizabeth was pleaſed with his countenance; the ducheſs ſaid he was the king of France; the duke corrected her, "he was the French "king." Charlotte nodded and ſmiled as ſhe does when "God ſave the king" is ſtruck up at the play-houſe.---I can imagine how the daughter of Maria Thereſa would look at Charlotte on ſuch an occaſion.

The collection of pictures is princely; though I own I know nothing of pictures. The inſcription on the pedeſtal of the column in the park, and Victory crowning the duke of Marlborough on the ceiling, made my heart bleed. If ſuch a man as the duke of Marlborough had invaded America!---but I will think no more of it. Charlotte and the princeſſes were much amuſed with the paintings. I took ſufficient time, as uſual, in examining them; but if I were to make my choice, it would be Tenier's monkies, in the habits of monks. I wonder Bunbury does not ſketch the preſent clergy from the animals they reſemble;---the archbiſhop of Canterbury,

terbury, a ſpaniel; archbiſhop of York, a tyger; biſhop of Durham, a gooſe, &c.

Apropos of eccleſiaſtical dignities---I have conferred them in great numbers; and I am ſatisfied with Thurlow as the beſt *eccleſiaſtical broker* I ever had. Profligate in his own principles, and at heart indifferent to all, he ſees only the point of intereſt in which every benefice may be placed. The object of his inclination and power is to depreſs ſcrupulous and conſcientious minds; to have but one opinion and one will in the country; and that dictated by him, dictating to a cabinet. The ſudden elevation of his brother was, however, beyond my opinion even of his aſſurance. Two boys, deſigned for Norwich weavers; the deſcendants of a degraded family, (if any thing could be degraded in the ſervice of Oliver Cromwell;) the one of moderate abilities, and very confined knowledge; the other, an incorrigible blockhead:---at the head of the law, and nearly at the head of the church of England; are inſtances of the laviſh exerciſe of, power, not eaſily exceeded on this ſide of Turkey.

Indeed Marlborough muſt feel awkwardly on the advancement of a tutor from the ſecond table of his family, into an Archbiſhopric, where he is entitled to precedence of his patron.

The duke ſeems attached to the clergy, probably for the reaſons that determine me. They are the moſt ſteady inſtruments of influence,

fluence, as they formerly were of power. One of them preſented me, in the duke's name, with Alfred's tranſlations of Boethius, on the very ſpot where Alfred is ſuppoſed to have made them; and the ſycamores are held ſacred where the palace ſtood which ſheltered the birth of Edward the Black Prince, and which was ſo effectually demoliſhed by Oliver Cromwell. How wiſe my late meaſure in diſſolving the parliament in its firſt moments of reſtiveneſs, and chuſing another to obey my will; and that by a youth, whoſe early and intuitive hypocriſy aſtoniſhes me, accuſtomed as I have been to its arts from the moment of my birth!

Nuneham is rural, picturesque, and would be comfortable, if it were not infeſted with theatrical grimace and ſentiment. The nobility of this family is from political ſervices of the law; and lawyers' families will ſoon fill the Houſe of Lords.---No matter; a few odd individuals excepted, they are as ſupple as the clergy, and as eaſily held in the great road of profit and honours. They are likewiſe more uſeful; for as every event is to be attended with a mock debate, it is neceſſary I ſhould, on all occaſions, have the greater number of ſpeeches in my favour.

The collection here is trifling.---I obſerved the Queen attentive to the picture of the ducheſs of Glouceſter---What brothers and ſiſters I have! and they have lately diſtinguiſhed themſelves, and celebrated their country, by travelling!

The

The gardens would be pretty, if the ſpectator were not ſickened with ſentimental inſtructions for his taſte and affections on every ſpot. If I were not the head of the church, I would ſay, "this is a damned provoking "cuſtom!" and I do not in my heart love thoſe amphibious animals, who are half actors and half gentry.---I will now and then ſee a private play; but not one ſhall ever infeſt my family.

RECOLLECTION IV.

CHELTENHAM, JULY 12, 1788.

I WONDER whether my phyſicians, preſcribing this place, have taken into the account the fatigues of the journey. I traverſed the *Cat's Path* *, at Windſor, an hour before my uſual time, and was obliged to exert myſelf to call up the people. The crouds on the road to ſee me, have been prodigious; but they generally bowed to lord Courtown. Charlotte wiſhes I would leave off the brown bob, and wear a German major. I am thought to have too much German already. "What, ſays Charlotte, in your blood; "that is not from me?" Whence are the complaints of the children?---A queen of

* The path which the king takes in a morning to call up his family, and ſometimes his attendants, is called the Cat's Path.

England privately dreſſing iſſues in their arms, and ſome of them barbarouſly mangled for white tumors.---Charlotte perſiſts "they are not from me."---What can it ſignify whence they are, if they may be cured? and other families find a cure for them.

Oxford is burſting into a flame, becauſe Rowley applies for a diploma; and his offence is, having formerly benefited a noble family, by a medicine unknown.

Seeing the diſtreſs of his mother for me, and ſome of the children, and obſerving a ſycophant phyſician directing palliations for radical and conſtitutional evils, George adviſed her to ſend for a box of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. Charlotte looked grave and offended, which is not uſual in her converſation with George. He delicately ſaw her objection, and dexterouſly placed two holy biſhops, thoſe of Peterborough and Landaff, between him and his mother; who he declared recommended it with as much zeal and perſeverence as if they had a property in it.

The queen loves biſhops; and Swainſon would have ſuperceded all the phyſicians of the houſehold, if, on mentioning it to Porteous, a true prieſt, after the queen's own heart, he had not demurred againſt any thing coming from biſhops in oppoſition; and particularly from Watſon. It is true, Watſon is not as he ſhould be. He is reſtleſs and ambitious, and would have an opinion of his

own:

own; he is therefore no real churchman. He was no ſooner on the bench, than he recommended a mode of equalizing the portions of the church revenues. One ſtep further, in allowing the pariſhes to chuſe their miniſters, and the clergy would have been of no utility to adminiſtration, or to patrons in its intereſt---in ſhort, the *alliance of church and ſtate* would have been totally diſſolved.

In the conſideration of the commercial treaty, he diſcovered the ſpirit of a demagogue. But Porteous has pointed out a circumſtance to Charlotte, which moſt effectually precluded his advancement, as well as the influence of his medical opinions. He dedicated theological tracts to the queen; the moſt remarkable of which have been written by diſſenting ſocinians. I know not preciſely in what conſiſts the hereſy of ſocinians; but they are diſſenters, fond of innovation, and inimical to the influence of the crown.

The Cambridge biſhops muſt, therefore, confine their favourite noſtrum to the univerſity; for Velnos' Vegetable Syrup ſhall not approach our family.

By the way, is it not a ſtatuable offence, for the heads of houſes to recommend the uſe of a noſtrum in an univerſity?---Mem.---to conſult Markham and Hurd on the ſubject. The faculty, at leaſt, may be inſtigated; theſe inſtruments of oppoſition may be rendered unpopular and odious; and that is

not to be neglected on the approach of an election.

In the appointment of biſhops, I wiſh more attention were paid to their *principles*.---I thought the chancellor was guarded againſt moraliſts, men of ſcience, and perſons diſpoſed to inquiry; for inquiry always leads to innovation. Horſley is a man after my own heart; he keeps the provinces of letters, and theology diſtinct; and would circumſcribe the latter with fire and faggot, if the humour of the times would admit of them. Hinchliffe, Watſon, Shipley, and Roſs, are *diſſenters in maſque*; advocates for toleration, and fond of reform.

SUNDAY 13.

SLEPT four minutes and ten ſeconds longer than uſual at Windſor; a proof that the air agrees with me. My appearance on the terrace laſt night had a good effect on the people; and I expected the little town would have been ſet on fire by the illuminations. This proves they neither reſent the loſs of America, nor the accumulation of taxes. I thought it beſt to be grave and ſtately on my firſt appearance; but I excel in the arts of familiarity. I have nodded and capered to the band at Windſor, until the whole terrace has roared out a boiſterous laugh, in which I heartily joined. Charlotte is not cordial in theſe condeſcenſions; but ſhe has not diſſipated

ſipated her German ſtatelineſs and gravity; and knows not if we make the people laugh, their hearts are always with us. They ſhall laugh heartily whenever I appear.

At ſix, drank the waters; and I mean to obſerve all their effects. As to their nature, the phyſicians are as ignorant, as of a noſtrum. They contain ſalts, iron, ſulphur, and earth; but in what proportions nobody knows; and thoſe proportions are variable, and at hazard, from the variations of the ſtrata through which they paſs. It ſeems to be a low and deſpicable ſtate of phyſic, which depends on the rude and uncertain pharmacy of nature. But the faculty is an order in the ſtate; and it would weaken my influence to ſhock the prejudices, or to hurt the intereſt, of any order.

The attendants are very ceremonious about my royal hands and my royal lips; but the water obſerves no ceremonies with my ſtomach and bowels. It would be an eternal ſubject of laughter againſt me, if I ſhould be driven to expoſe my royal parts under a hedge; the queen would faint at the idea; and the princeſſes would not ſhew their faces at Cheltenham. I muſt, therefore, calculate probabilities in the movements of the waters, and my own; and muſt beware of public accidents.

No time to read the newſpapers;---the only compoſitions I peruſe;---on account of preparations for church. I ſpend as much of my time

time in churches, and I hear as much facred mufic, as any monarch in Europe. I hope thefe things will qualify me for heaven. I do not, however, much reliſh the thoughts of heaven; no diſtinction of ranks, no privilege of family; none but *levelling* principles take place there. I wiſh the clergy would review the doctrine, and eſtabliſh it on more monarchial ideas.

The biſhop of the dioceſe has thought fit to take charge of my ſoul, during the operation of the waters on my body. Comfortably as he is provided for, he will think it hard to look for his reward in heaven.---Halifax is the competitor and relation of John Jebb, of diſcontented and ſeditious memory. He obſtructed the projects of that viſionary at Cambridge, by an early acquaintance with his intentions, and purſued the line of obedience and promotion, while the other tore off his garments, haraſſed his friends with reveries, and ſunk into the grave in poverty and vexation.

I love to ſee a ſmooth and oily biſhop, who has ſecured advantages with the artifices of a Jew, inſiſting on the meekneſs, ſimplicity, and diſintereſtneſs recommended by the goſpel. It is a ſolacing proof the people will bear any contradiction or inconſiſtency of profeſſions and purſuits. They regret the tythes, and cheat the collectors; but they would trample to death the daring reformer who would remove their oppreſſors, or diſpute the ſanctity

ſanctity of the conſtitutions by which they are impoveriſhed. On this ſingle pivot reſt all the regal and eccleſiaſtical powers of Europe. But things will hold as they are for my life, and that of my immediate deſcendants. As to remote poſterities, they are not included in my anxieties.

In my ride, lord Courtown threw out ſome religious hints, not being uſed to attend me on Sundays; for it is not my cuſtom to think of religion, after diſcharging its public duties.

RECOLLECTION V.

MONDAY, 14.

LEFT the queen, as uſual, in bed; and called up the princeſs royal. The queen ſleeps abundantly more than I do; and yet ſhe has as many anxieties. She wiſhes ſome of her daughters married; but royal marriages are not often happy. My ſiſters afford leſſons on the ſubject, which the queen has frequently given the children. The princeſs royal has a reſerve and hauteur which would ſuit a northern court! but Charlotte will not hear of Denmark. Our alliances are very confined; and the princeſs has been inquiſitive this morning on the circumſtances which regulate them. The waters, in purifying the blood, may poſſibly accelerate its motion---" What," ſaid I, " do you think of marriage?" She looked

looked cloudy, but not diſpleaſed. " Well, " well, I'll get a huſband for you!"---" You " muſt change the miniſters, then, for they " do not love the ſex."---" What, what," ſaid I, " are you turning patriot, as well as George?"

Princeſs. I wiſh the prince were married.

King. Horne Tooke ſwears he is!

Princeſs. You do not liſten to ſuch men; my brother is amiable and noble!---

King. Huſh!---He countenances thoſe who would drive me out of the country; or take away all my power in it.

Princeſs. We have often heard you ſay, you would be happier without the powers, which are the objects of factions.

King. Ho!---ho!---You are becoming a politician;---remember George!

Princeſs. I wiſh my brother could marry ſuitably to his rank and accompliſhments; into France, Spain, or Auſtria.

King. And you---to the emperor.---What, you are not ſatisfied with ſtadtholders, electors, and dukes?

Princeſs. If rank, and not choice, is to determine, I ſhould like to move in the higheſt!

King. But religion, child!---the proteſtant religion!---

Princeſs. The world ſeems diſpoſed to indulge all religions.

King. If I were to marry either of you to a roman catholic, ſir Richard Hill, and lord George Gordon, would form a new faction.

The

The very guards would desert me; and I should have my palaces about my ears.

Princess. I wish my brother were among us.---The queen caught the words as we got up stairs, and was very serious on indiscreet conversations with the princess; said, she was thoughtful, discontented, &c. What can I do? If George were cordially to return to court, with an income suited to his rank; if the maxims and manners to which he inclines were introduced, I should be lost in the blaze of cultivated arts, and the splendor of collected talents:---he would find some means to obtain our treasures, and would scatter them through the streets rather than suffer them to accumulate. I wish I could live another century. A fifth part of our treasure, on the principles of compound interest, would, in twenty years, render my minister the vizier of a divan; and clear the springs of the monarchy of all their impediments and obstructions.

I do not love reasoning with women---and was glad to escape to my horse. Presbury grotto is a romantic object, and Ulett is pretty. But lord Courtown does not furnish me with any new phrases on landscape. That is the advantage of West. He is to me an elementary treatise on all matters of taste; and George says, he will never go beyond the first elements himself. He is, however, very useful to me. Sir Joshua, and Gainsborough, and Barrett, and Romney, were mutes. They

aſſented civilly when they approved; and fixed their eyes on the ground, when they diſapproved.---Weſt is indefatigable in making me ſee with his eyes, and judge by his conceptions.---What is to be done, when I cannot ſee an inch before me, and have not leiſure to form conceptions?

RECOLLECTION VI.

TUESDAY, 15.

THE newſpapers of laſt night ſhortened my reſt, and accelerated the operations of the waters in the morning. Mem.---to leſſen the doſe, when the newſpapers have diſturbed me. Weſtminſter will be once more in a flame. Pitt ſays he ſhall loſe his character, if all the means of extinguiſhing it be iſſued from the Treaſury; and that the civil liſt muſt contribute a moiety. I have declined public tables; I have boarded with the queen in habitations which look like outhouſes to my palaces; and I have haraſſed the circumſtances of the prince, in order to ſave from the civil revenue. But parliament is a bottomleſs gulf. I wonder the people do not ſee its inutility, when majorities are ſecured; and ſave the expences of corruption. But, who is the people? or, where is the people? It is a bugbear; no where to be found; and employed by artful partizans to frighten credulous guilt.

Pitt

Pitt and Dundas do not mean to meet Fox in the conteſt, but to fight by deputies. Dundas is an arrant coward, and Pitt's courage is vapouring gaſconade.

It is extremely mortifying that Weſtminſter, the reſidence of my court, nay, of a numerous Parliament *in the Confidence* of my ſervants, ſhould, in fact, be attached to my enemies; for I reckon every man my enemy, who oppoſes and limits my prerogative.

Pitt, himſelf, ſays Hood is in danger; and that our hopes are in the inability of the party to ſuſtain the expence of a conteſt. Hood ſerved our turn very well, when the *reflected glories of the twelfth of April* were new: but general Preſcott has whiſpered through the country the whole buſineſs of St. Kitts; and there ſeems to be no doubt, if he had ſhewn half the bravery he affects in the Cheſapeak, the fate of America would not have been decided ſo ſhamefully. Beſides, the man lives ſhabbily, and does not ſuſtain the appearance of a gentleman. His whole family, even his cats and dogs, are ſupported by the profuſe hoſpitality of Barwell, both in town and country; and he lays up his income for a booby lordling, who will never put in claims for public favour; and who will conſole himſelf with the inheritance of the father's diſproportionate rewards.

I wiſh they had ſtarted a new candidate; the expence would have been leſs. But the Hoods are the clients of the Pitts---Hence

the neglect of Rodney. Poor Rodney!---But a king ſhould have no common feelings!---

Zounds! I ſhall run mad!---My Recollections are broken, by a repreſentation from lord Courtown and colonel Digby, that it will not be proper the royal family and attendants ſhould go into the public rooms, without ſubſcribing! We ſhall never go to their balls; and wiſh we had not peeped into the rooms! I muſt go to the queen again! Schwellenburg will rave herſelf into fits!

Thank God, it is ſettled moderately!---; they had the conſcience to adviſe a hundred pounds for each ſubſcription. It is fixed at fifty to Moreau; and twenty-five to each room. I wiſh the Weſtminſter election were as well over.

RECOLLECTION VII.

WEDNESDAY, 16.

THOUGH the papers arrive late, they occupy my firſt Recollections at this time. It is ſtrange they are not better managed, the expence being ſo conſiderable. Walpole often declared, of all venality, that of the preſs was the moſt unprofitable. "I pay thouſands, "ſaid he, for writings in my favour; and "they are not read; they are good for no-"thing: while lampoons and ſatires on me, "are replete with wit, and ſought with ea-"gerneſs."

What

What a creature is this Topham! to claim the penſion of David Hume! Atheiſm cannot guard his ſhade from reſentment at ſuch indignity;---and yet Roſe ſays he muſt be gratified. When all the papers are paid, their utility is over; and we differ only in illuſion from the kingdoms who have none. This is the ſtate we ſhould be in, according to Jenkinſon and Dundas; who, I muſt allow, are not diſpoſed to expenditure. Pitt affects to deſpiſe them; but Dundas ſays, it is palpable affectation, and that he reaches them by indirect modes. Sheridan is the man for the papers: Steel is too cautious and gentleman like; and Roſe, once a purſer, and for ever a purſer. Let the allowance be what it may, the writers are poorly paid; and it does not anſwer the purpoſe, that the purſer grows rich.

Is there no method of reforming this d--n'd *World?* I can get nobody to decypher the paragraphs; and I have Engliſh, Scots, Iriſh, Welſh, French, German, and Dutch, about me. The praiſes are ſign-poſt daubings, expoſing the objects to ridicule; and they are ſo indiſcriminate, as to be no compliments. The ſame epithets ſerve for the queen, and Mrs. Wells; and I ſhall be laughed at through Europe, by being incloſed in a parentheſis with Topham and Bell. But all things in government are connected by ſtrong links. Roſe and Dundas cannot be diſpenſed with at this time; and Topham muſt be paid for keeping up the laugh at *our expence.*

Let

Let him have a hint, however, *to moderate his perſonal courage;* and to check Bell *in his perpetual alluſions to burn bailiffs.*

Adzooks! what a robbery! The large diamond of the Devonſhire George. I have ſeen the queen's eye intently fixed on it. I'll go and tell her ſhe will be taken up on ſuſpicion.---Egad ſhe was ready to cry.---Suppoſe it were brought round, it muſt not be purchaſed under value: and ſuch a preſent would not be made, but with a view to change the miniſtry. She has an aſtoniſhing paſſion for diamonds. The poor milliner---poor indeed ſhe is not, thanks to ſmuggling; on dreſſing her for the birth-day, diſplayed a large ring. ---It fixed Charlotte's attention. "What a "fine ring you have, Mrs. P---!" The woman was frightened, knowing her diſpoſition---"Pleaſe your majeſty, I had a few old "diamonds, which I had ſet for the day." We were hurrying to court; the milliner eſcaped, and will never more appear before the queen with a ring.

How wonderful that a ſmall pebble, dug up in Golconda, ſhould faſcinate the fancy, and affect the fate of kingdoms! Haſtings' wife not only found her way to court under exceptionable circumſtances, but dazzled our ſenſes away.

How little is the buſineſs of Haſtings underſtood! And how imperfect the information of hiſtory! They talk of immortal fame in its compilation. If the materials are not

more

more authentic than our newſpapers, hiſtory is only a romance.

Haſtings found his way, not only to my favour, but to my good opinion. That was communicated to adminiſtration; and the enquiry would have been thrown out of the Commons. Oppoſition, whoſe perceptions are keen, underſtood the ſituation of things, and was diſpoſed to avoid diſgrace. Scott inſulted and defied the enquiry, with the fatality which ever attends his interference. One day only preceding the determination to impeach, I communicated to Pitt my wiſh, *that Haſtings ſhould preſide at the board of controul*; ſoon after the rejection of the impeachment, which had then been firmly determined. I ſaw his countenance change: he inſtantly affected doubts concerning the prudence of ſhielding Haſtings by the influence of the crown, in the houſe; and hinted, that Dundas would be loſt to adminiſtration; which I did not believe.

In four and twenty hours, Pitt and Dundas apprized a ſufficient number of their friends, there were impeachable matters in Haſtings' conduct; they pronounced thoſe *candid* ſpeeches, which aſtoniſhed the houſe, nay, even the nation; almoſt deceived oppoſition; and they ſent the governor general to ſtand at the bar of the lords for a twelvemonth, *that he might not preſide at the board of controul.* Rumbold and Impey, exciting no ſuch apprehenſions, are voted immaculate: the *me-*

diate

diate murderers of lord Pigott, ſkulk obſcurely, but unmoleſted. Haſtings is the ſcapegoat of India; and if his ſoul is to bear its ſins, the torments of hell ſhould be multiplied in intenſity and horror.

But he muſt not be loſt!---He will employ for ſome time the firſt talents of oppoſition; and when diſcharged honours will ſooth his ſufferings; and his talents and knowledge will check the rapacious and unprincipled wiles of Henry Dundas. He ſhall be confidential miniſter for India, as Jenkinſon is for Europe.

RECOLLECTION VIII.

THURSDAY, 17.

THIS Weſtminſter election abſorbs my political Recollections. Baker told me to keep my mind calm and ſerene. He has the manner of a prieſt. His family is eccleſiaſtical; and I am told he underſtands Greek better than phyſic. Jebb's attention was to muſic; Hebberden's to natural hiſtory and religion; Warren's to money. Quacks only ſtudy phyſic, as diſſenters principally ſtudy the ſcriptures. If there were no quacks and diſſenters, a general torpor, ignorance, and profligacy, would invade the profeſſions of divinity and medicine. Now a Prieſtly, a Velnos, a Price, or a James, rouze the mercenary

cenary bands of regulars, who doſe in their fortified ſtations; and ſome buſtle and benefit are the conſequences.

But neither quacks nor regulars could compoſe my mind during the uncertainty of events at Weſtminſter. The Shakeſpeare club is formidable. That idiot, Topham, brands it as low and needy:---Roſe ſhould reprove his folly;---he knows not the mode of throwing dirt at the houſes of Bedford, Devonſhire, and Portland. What have we to oppoſe to them? The *mottled* offspring of Lady Groſvenor; Macnamara, the produce of low gambling and fortune-hunting; Churchill the apothecary, who preſumes to call himſelf gentleman, on the credit of his deceaſed brother; and John Horne Tooke! Heavens! what revolutions have ariſen in my time! If I could touch for the evil, as I can for patriotiſm, the ſpring of Cheltenham might flow in peace; and candidates would not wage mortal war for the recipes of vegetable ſyrups. John Horne has thruſt his head into my net:---of all converſions this is the moſt extraordinary. Junius wrote to be ſilenced; but riſqued his life in every line. The plan of Wilkes was obvious; and while he holds a lucrative office by the city influence of adminiſtration, he will be quiet and docile. But Horne's impriſonment made his fortune, by its effects on the credulity of old Tooke; and it gave him leiſure to become a grammarian; the only cir-

cumſtance for which he will be remembered with reſpect.

What can Horne want? He cannot return to the church:---his indecent profaneneſs, and debauchery, would not admit a decent veil. The benchers at the Temple have rejected him; and Bearcroft ſays he cannot retract. Pitt adviſes Bearcroft to be out of the way, and to paſs Horne to the bar. I ſhould like to put the unprincipled tendencies of ſuch minds to the utmoſt ſtretch; to revive the ſtar-chamber; and to appoint Horne the judge. The atheiſts of the reign of Charles were the moſt prone to intolerance; and I have no doubt but I could make Horne ſend Gibbon to the galleys; take off the ears of Prieſtly; and ſend David Williams to Newgate for life. This is the triumph of prerogative, over the varying affectations of principle and patriotiſm!

Horne ſhall go to the bar, and into the houſe! he will ſnarl at oppoſition inceſſantly; but he muſt not write. Hurd's opinion pleaſes me:---he may have found out the meaning of conjunctions and prepoſitions; but he is a ſtranger to the beauties of Engliſh ſtyle, and writes in the dialect of Billingſgate. Have we no ſuch writers as thoſe of the Rolliad? I am ſick of the quaint monotony of the *World*; and I hate the pamphlets under the direction of Roſe.

My ride to Tewkeſbury has been of no ſervice, ſo much are my thoughts perplexed. It is a borough, and I muſt viſit it again.

Oh!

Oh! I recollect how it ſtands---One of the members is a quiet, decent, conformable man; the other is a *chattering ſtarling* on the coalition. Martin's folly was of uſe; and Dundas ſays he may be eaſily fixed, allowing a little ſcope to his oddities. Digby hinted ſomething of a battle of Tewkeſbury, and the conteſt of the two roſes; but they are matters of antiquity beyond my reading; and my mind is ſo divided by anxiety, and the diverting thoughts of Horne's converſion, that it has no reliſh for diſtant events.

When Roſe gave the firſt intimation of Horne's deſertion, I was curious to know what had lately impelled his irraſcible temper. He ſaid the prince had neglected the honours he had conferred on Mrs. Fitzherbert. What a profligate wretch, to pay court to the prince in a manner that might diſturb the public peace; and immediately paſs over to adminiſtration, the deſpicable tool of a corrupt election!

He affects to take merit for his ſilence in the buſineſs of young Creſpigny; to all the particulars of which he is privy. I will make him extol the clemency of my guards, in ſuffering the people to walk the ſtreets; or he ſhall not have his wiſhes gratified in being called into political exiſtence. So much for renegade patriotiſm!

RECOLLECTION IX.

FRIDAY, 18.

WHAT a contraſt this morning at the ſpring, between lord Bathurſt, and the ſoldier cutting out watch papers!---The one inviting me to his ſeat, to diſplay his wealth, and to put in his claims for the promotion of his ſon; the other induſtriouſly earning a ſcanty ſubſiſtence, by an ingenuity foreign to his former habits. They have both been my ſervants. But how different in their motives? and how differently rewarded!---The bar called lord Bathurſt, lord *Abſque*; playing on the title of Apſley; and intimating, he was a lawyer *without* knowledge, and a chancellor *without* talents! but he was ſubſervient and conformable: a negative merit of great importance at the time.---I muſt ſee his houſe and woods: they have been the haunts of genius; and though genius is ſeldom in harmony with me, I have a pleaſure in tracing its former ſteps.

The old ſoldier at his watch-papers, makes me ſometimes feel as a man; and when Charlotte and the princeſſes ordered ſpecimens, I had momentary diſpoſitions to be generous. Thoſe are dangerous diſpoſitions in a prince; and I check them, recollecting the proſpect of a general election, and the neceſſity of ſaving for my numerous family.

God

God forbid that ſuch an object ſhould ever preſent itſelf to George!

Pitt ſays, Apſley muſt be fixed at the Admiralty. I aſked if he had ever been at ſea? ---No, certainly, was the anſwer; and it could be of no importance, as buſineſs of offices is generally executed by the principal clerks. "What in yours, for inſtance?" "No, not wholly." "Pray which of the "offices do you really execute,---that of firſt "commiſſioner of the treaſury, or that of "chancellor of the exchequer?" "Your "majeſty is pleaſed to be witty. You muſt "recollect, when the coalition threw go-"vernment into diſmay; when even the "hairs of Thurlow's wig ſtood erect; I was "ſolicited to ſtand between your odious ca-"binet and the public, who would not have "borne the countenances of Shelburne, Jen-"kinſon, or Dundas. Your majeſty did not "then require me to be acquainted with the "duties of my offices; and when I objected "my own ignorance, the anſwer was,---hold "them oſtenſibly, and you ſhall be inſtruct-"ed and ſupported. We only want a ſkreen, "without obvious ſpots, between us and an "irritated people; and thoſe whoſe hands "are ſtained with the moſt pernicious crimes "of a late adminiſtration, ſhall deſert their "principles, direct your movements, and "ſecretly accompliſh the purpoſes we dare "not avow. On theſe aſſurances, I conſent-"ed to brave the ridicule and aſtoniſhment

"of

" of the nation. If my ſupports are with-
" drawn, I will withdraw the ſkreen; for
" the emoluments of all my offices are ne-
" ceſſary to the formation of my fortune."

I was ſilenced. But the term of this boy's inſolence ſhall not be long! Hypocriſy ſo conſummate, and ſo early, borders on impoſſibility. I had been accuſtomed to look up to Shelburne, as the maſter of this art. Every muſcle of Shelburne's (I ſhould ſay Lanſdowne's) frame is verſatile. But hypocriſy in him ſeems to be nature, and not principle; for he would employ his right hand to deceive his left, rather than *not deceive*. Pitt is actuated by a ſolemn deliberate perfidy, which holds one object for ever in view;---and that is his own intereſt.

I tempted him with ſuperior advantages to thoſe of his preſent ſituations; as I wiſhed to divide them; but he ſaw the ſnare, and refuſed the *pelfs*, to ſecure his footing. He has puſhed his fooliſh brother into the admiralty, to provide for his neceſſities, and to procure a vote in the cabinet againſt the chancellor, who rules it in *my abſence*. How Thurlow will take it is yet doubtful, but not very important; for though he is of great uſe in the oratorial ſparrings of the lords, he has no influence but over old Stafford's wife and daughters, whom he teaches to read poetry, to ſave expence. She is a political vixen, as my poor mother experienced; and the henpecked old lord has a little intereſt.

I am

I am not, by any means, for diſobliging him in favour of Pitt; whoſe power is becoming formidable; and who ſlily ſteals from me, much more than Fox would have openly taken.

Charlotte juſtly obſerves, the Chatham family will ever be *on the pariſh*---ſhe means on the public. The glorious Pitt, as the fooliſh rabble call him, was always a penſioned beggar; firſt to the ducheſs of Marlborough, in the intereſt of Toryiſm; and afterwards to government, in all its varying meaſures. Poor Pynſent ſtarved his relations *to leave his fortune to an impoſtor*. Hollis had made a will of the ſame kind; but meeting Chatham at Lyme, he exclaimed---"He is hol-"low, noiſy, empty, vain, and inſincere! "I will tear my will, and leave my fortune "to a man who makes no public preten-"ſions." He was true to his word, and Brand Hollis got himſelf into priſon, for the crime which his benefactor abhorred above all others.

I hate theſe patriots! and I am aſtoniſhed at the credulity of the public, which affords them credit in endleſs ſucceſſion. Pulteney took off the maſk when he had acquired a princely fortune:---the Chatham family continue it; becauſe a princely fortune will not anſwer their wants. Charlotte, in ordering new bodies for the childrens' old frocks, grumbles at the hints of Dundas, that Pitt has ſecured for himſelf and his immediate connections, near ſixty thouſand a-year!

RECOL-

RECOLLECTION X.

SATURDAY, 19.

HA! ha! ha!---I have ſet an ambitious blockhead on the toilſome and fruitleſs project of moving a wooden houſe. If he ſucceed, he will be a pecuniary ſufferer, for I have bargained prudently. But he will be celebrated, and ſhall have fame. How magnificent it will appear in the foreign gazettes! ---" The king of England, during his reſi- " dence at Cheltenham, ordered one of the " houſes of the town to be conveyed into a " park, near his reſidence, for the reception " of his ſecond ſon, the duke of York. Ma- " chinery was immediately applied to the " houſe; and it was conveyed as by magic, " &c."

I love fame; but can obtain none! Foreigners credit libels only; or newſpapers in oppoſition: never thoſe retained by my miniſter. The moſt favourable opinion of me, is a good ſort of a man;---ſcanty in talents; with a voracious indiſcriminating memory, and unceaſing volubility of utterance; totally unacquainted with political ſcience; and a verboſe pretender in literature and the arts. I have made bold efforts to obviate theſe ſentiments. When Herſchel diſcovered a planet, I took him under my protection, on condition it ſhould be called by my name. All Europe

Europe revolted at the abſurdity; and not an aſtronomer out of England (and the aſtronomer royal only in England) will call it *Georgium Sidus*.

I directed *Banks* to have proper papers in the royal ſociety to ſecure this appellation; and to magnify the importance of the diſcovery, *as compenſating the loſs of America*. Banks did all in his power; but declared no good could be done with the ſociety, until all the old independent members were [illegible] were in habits of intimacy with [illegible]; and they were replaced by noblemen who would render the ſociety the inſtrument of my pleaſure. That Banks is an odd animal: with the phyſiognomy and gait of a ſavage: with a fortune to render him independent; and with a love of knowledge to occupy him ---he is a ſervile courtier. A ſpy on the philoſophical world---he enables me, unperceived, to direct my influence againſt impertinent and innovating genuis; and I have, by his means, facilitated foreign negociations, and gratified the vengeance of German deſpots on men of letters who have taken refuge in England. Pitt wanted his place for lord Mahon, before Mahon diſobliged him in oppoſing the plan which he adopted from Gale, the American, for the payment of the national debt. Pitt was juſtly provoked, that Mahon ſhould not have produced his thoughts *to him*, as he certainly ſhould have adopted them in preference to thoſe of a ſtranger;

and as, in a matter perfectly unintelligible to himself, he would have proceeded with more confidence under the direction of a relation. "No;" says Mahon, "I will not "labour, when others have the profit and "fame. You employ a dozen *fags* to collect "the materials of a single speech; and suf-"fer many of them to remain in difficulties, "while you wallow in wealth, and are hail-"ed by a venal parliament, as a youth of as-"tonishing abilities. I will not *lend you my* "*brains;* they shall appear in opposition, and "they will be recognised as my own." Thus the brothers quarrelled; and Mahon cannot be *president of the royal society.*

Lord Kenmare paid his court here; because he could not at St. James, as a roman catholic. The papists have nearly relinquished all hopes from the Stuarts. Lord Kenmare warmly invited me to Killarney. It would be an adventure to pass over into Ireland on a visit to a catholic. What a cumbustion I should occasion at Dublin! where government is a system of jobs that would disgrace *Duke's-place.*---I should like to surprize the rogues. When the American war broke out, I visited Mrs. Wright's exhibition of wax-work. The old hag---a furious American---came up to me, and seized the button of my coat;---"Why "don't you go to America yourself," said she, "instead of hearing the lies of your gover-"nors?" "It is the first invitation I have "had, Mrs. Wright."---I wish I had accept-

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ed it; however impertinent the meſſenger. I will go to Ireland. I will ſee all my European dominions before I die; and I ſhall poſſibly learn, *too late*, that nothing imaginable can be eaſier than to ſilence their murmurs, and to render them proſperous and happy.

While I utter a good ſentiment, or form a good reſolution, the newſpapers arrive to obliterate them. The introduction of ſailors at Weſtminſter has produced riots. I rejoice I am at a diſtance. I hate riots. For though the guards are faithful to me, and inimical to the people, a powerful torrent might burſt their bounds and overwhelm me. The ſoldiers, and the Weſtminſter Juſtices, it is to be hoped, will terminate the buſineſs.

RECOLLECTION XI.

SUNDAY, 20.

THE occurrences at the ſpring want novelty. The people croud the church on Sunday; but they ſeem ſatisfied with ſeeing us.

Employed myſelf, after ſervice, in viſiting people at their lodgings, in the manner of the emperor. Charlotte has great veneration for the German emperor, and could not for ſome time be reconciled to the thoughts of his familiar viſits. I like them vaſtly, as filling up my time; and God knows, I have time enough from five in the morning till twelve

at night. I muſt be a little more on my guard than at Windſor, where if I had continued my familiarities, I ſhould have depopulated the neighbourhood. The doors were ſhut up and barricaded the inſtant I appeared; or a ſingle ſervant would peep out at the window, and declare earneſtly, "there is nobody at home." I have hunted families out of cloſets, cellars, and coal-holes, when they were not diſpoſed to a little chat with me in a morning: and the buſineſs of the mouſe-trap occaſioned ſome uneaſineſs. I ſtopped at the houſe of an officer's widow, meaning only to aſk queſtions on her ſituation. When I burſt in, every place ſeemed deſerted. In ſearching the kitchen, and examining its contents, I found a little machine with a bit of cheeſe in it. I put my finger to the cheeſe, and the machine pinched me ſo horribly that I bellowed out. The ſervant came in; the widow left her hiding place, and with a thouſand apologies liberated my finger. I curſed the accident; but could not avoid a laugh on being told I had been caught in a *mouſe-trap*. By *long* and *minute* examination, which I beſtow on every thing to kill time, I underſtood its conſtruction; and ſet the trap, meaning not to call again until I thought ſome mouſe had been as unfortunate as myſelf. I told the ſtory to Charlotte; and began my viſits, in charge of the widow's mouſe-trap. But though Charlotte is not jealous, ſhe is prudent. I have no gallantry; no inſinuation; and my volubility

volubility is not the manner which engages women. It was not the thing, however, in Charlotte's opinion, that I ſhould employ myſelf *about the widow's mouſe-trap.*

Lord bleſs me! the papers are full of ſelf-murder, and they convey the accounts here on a Sunday, when prayers and ſermons have depreſſed my ſpirits. Say and Sele! it is not common to hear of a lord's departure in ſuch a manner.--Heſſe, I ſuppoſe, could ſettle his accounts no other way. Such events will affect George; but I cannot ſay they move me. Hallifax obſerved, they are owing to the decline of religion, and the prevalence of infidelity. I ſhould think, if the common people believed firmly in the promiſes of their religion, they would diſpatch themſelves with alacrity into the other world. A king has no motive for quitting this; and I am not in danger of ſuicide.

RECOLLECTION XII.

MONDAY, 21.

I HAVE made the people here get up early. They ſucceeded me ſo rapidly at the ſpring this morning, that we drank it dry. It ſeemed ſo like jollity, that I led a general huzza; which terminated in a laugh. Hunt is now become my conſtant companion. He knows every inch of the country, and there is not a farmer

farmer with whom he has not had some litigation. I see he is hated in the neighbourhood! but he gives me the minutest information relating to it; and he clears my way, for none of the country people come within six yards of his person.

Mrs. Jordan is arrived. They announce a player as they do a prince; because he sometimes mimics royalty; or because he is important to general mirth. Mrs. Jordan is the only public favourite, who thoroughly pleases me. The puffs of newspapers may buoy up Siddons, Kemble, and Brunton; but there is abundant affectation and artifice mingled with their merits.—Little Jordan is, in all points, the very thing which the poet must have intended; and she is the only performer existing, who makes me perfectly forget I am in a play-house. I will see her; and have a hearty laugh. Laughing does me more good than the waters. Chesterfield was a fool in not perceiving its utility; and what is useful cannot be unpolite.

It drizzled a little in my ride; and made me think of the ice storm in France. I asked Digby, if he thought it probable we should have such storms in England? He only said, he never heard of any. He has no smattering of philosophy. Courtown will speak about any thing. I should like to have a natural philosopher in my suite; but he may chance to be thoughtful and mute. I will

speak

ſpeak to Banks on the ſubject. I hope he will not propoſe himſelf.

The ſtate of France is critical;---I was pleaſed to ſee it haraſſed; but I like not the language of its remonſtrances. This d----d philoſophy, with its rights of nature, humanity, and reaſon, is the mortal and irreconcilable enemy of power; and princes have a common intereſt in ſuppreſſing it. I do not mean natural philoſophy; the profeſſors of which are as tame and compliable as thoſe of religion. I mean the ſpirit of diſquiſition into right and wrong, inſtitutions and duties; ---they call it the higher philoſophy:---it is cultivated by the votaries of ancient morality; and branding them with the odium of atheiſm, does not deſtroy their credit. I am aſtoniſhed the clergy cannot ſilence them. In England we pay two millions a year to a mercenary band, to defend its religion, and maintain its credit; and it is with difficulty we can procure one to go out againſt a deiſt, though his hands be tied behind him by penal laws.

If a reformation take place in France, it will be on a plan of greater liberty than that of England; we muſt then follow, inſtead of giving, the example. Scotland, Ireland, and even India, will require emancipation; and I ſhall be reduced to be only "firſt "among my equals."---Mem. to hint to Roſe, that the commendations of French reſiſtance, in the miniſterial newſpapers, are not agreeable.

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RECOLLECTION XIII.

TUESDAY, 22.

THE wooden houſe ſtopped my way. The queen is indiſpoſed, and when ill, is ſuperſtitious;---ſo am I. She thought the obſtruction ominous; and that ſome miſchance would befall us at a diſtance from the guards, &c. I only *appear* to be unguarded here. Harrington's regiment is within call; and is ſufficient, according to Amherſt, to prevent any thing that can ariſe here. I walk alone near Windſor; but it is always with troops at ſmall diſtances.---This has the appearance of confidence, with the ſecurity of deſpotic ſuſpicion.

I forgot to tell the queen, when impeded by the wooden houſe, I jumped the ditch: ---one omen againſt the other.---When I had cleared it, I laughed, and the people laughed. I had not my glaſs out, and could not perceive their meaning. Charlotte ſays, I am ſtill vigorous, but becoming clumſy. A few leſſons on boxing would be good exerciſe; but George has been reflected upon for encouraging it; and I muſt not attempt what is unpopular in George. I ſuppoſe Sheridan is a proficient, or he would not have collared a Weſtminſter juſtice; who is generally made out of a brawny mechanic, and underſtands bruiſing.

They

The duke of Beaufort is come to invite me to Badmington. This is mere ceremony; for I have mortally offended that hot and haughty Welſhman. He has more family pride than money; and he wiſhed to be maſter of the horſe: but his parliamentary intereſt is nothing when oppoſed to Northumberland, or Montagu. The Welſh counties and boroughs ſend ſingle members; and he has only moieties of a few of them.

The queen likes the notions and manners of all the Beauforts:---they are Celtic or Teutonic, and analogous to thoſe of Mecklenbourg.

RECOLLECTION XIV.

WEDNESDAY, 23.

THIS day I devoted to packing and arranging for the excurſion to Glouceſter. If I did not attend to the ſeveral wardrobes of the family, no income would ſuſtain the expence! I aſked George once, if he knew the number of his coats? He ſaid he did not; but would obtain me the information if I choſe it. He would not miſs a diamond or a pearl; and would be ſtripped, if I did not commit him to proper people. The papers have been jocoſe on my locking up the queen's petticoat, when trimmed for the birth-day. It is often covered with diamonds, to the value of ſeventy thouſand

 pounds;

pounds; and the jewellery of the family is worth three hundred thouſand! George would leave them about the rooms like common pebbles. I cannot ſleep when they are all collected under my roof; and I ſhould miſs the ſmalleſt article in a moment.

RECOLLECTION XV.

THURSDAY, 24.

MY firſt viſit to Glouceſter will be memorable; as the great cities and towns of the kingdom have long been ſtrangers to their kings. I had no idea they wore ſo much the appearance of antiquity; and did not participate of modern and convenient improvements. The confinement of the court in London, not to call it impriſonment, has drawn every thing there, as to a centre; and the inhabitants are angry if the miniſter does not detain parliament three-fourths of the year.

The crowd of ſpectators, in our approach to Glouceſter, was very great; and it alarmed the queen, as it was the firſt time I was really in the power of the people: lord Harrington having ſent only a ſmall part of his regiment into the neighbourhood. Every thing paſſed off very well:---the farther from London, the more ſuperſtitious the people both in religion and loyalty! We had ordered

dered prudently to have our head quarters at the biſhop's palace; it gave an air of ſanctity to our proceedings. The biſhop's children ſcattering flowers at our entrance, was dramatic. The queen perceived the artifice, and returned it by kiſſing them. In viewing the cathedral, and the pin manufactory, I could not avoid recollecting Jenkinſon's comparative mode of eſtimating ſuch fabrics.

Jenkinſon, *if he could occaſionally forget his own intereſt*, would be a good politician.---He hates cathedrals and corporations in his heart, though he adores them in appearance; and eſtimates a thouſand modes in which their revenues might promote induſtry and population. In comparing the cathedral of Glouceſter and the pin manufactory, he would have ſtated their reſpective capitals; the eſtates of the church twenty, perhaps a hundred, times the ſum employed in the manufactory; the one indefinite in good conſequences, by the ſupport of induſtrious families; the other, a neſt of drones, uſeful to adminiſtration only once in ſeven years. I cannot adopt theſe ſentiments.---I recollect James's opinion,---no biſhop, no king;---and yet in ſurveying old cathedrals, and old caſtles, I cannot help meaſuring the ground they occupy in imagination, and computing the uſes to which it might be applied. But in a country, where one-third of the land is waſte, we may afford room for cathedrals and old caſtles.

RECOLLECTION XVI.

FRIDAY 25.

THE infirmary and prifon at Glouceſter were the firſt places of the kind I had ever ſeen; and infirmaries and priſons, I think, are analogous; the firſt, places of experiment for young ſurgeons, who are trained, like blood-hounds, to acts of cruelty; and the latter, ſcenes of uſeleſs miſery for thoſe who cannot *compound* with magiſtrates, conſtables, and beadles.

Howard has found a way to immortality, by ſuggeſting accommodations for thoſe unfortunate wretches. The tenantry of the county ſuffer for the profuſion of building materials now uſing about priſons. Hunt, and Sir George Paul, are erecting monuments to their memory---enormous burthens will keep the people humble.---What we want is to clear the lower offices of juſtice of thoſe filthy vermin that infeſt them: and when the guilty are diſcriminated from the innocent, their puniſhment ſhould be ſevere and exemplary. The idea of ſolitarineſs, Howard has borrowed from the Baſtile, and other priſons of deſpotic ſtates:---it will have the ſame effect here;---wretchedneſs will terminate in inſanity.

Glouceſter has ſuggeſted ſeveral new plans. The plan of Sunday ſchools originated with a printer and bookſeller here, whom I had the

the curioſity to ſee. This is alſo a popular idea, which *I muſt ſeem* to approve; though it has many exceptionable circumſtances, which Jenkinſon ſuggeſted on its firſt appearance. The learning and diſcipline of ſchools *diſqualify children for labour*, give them tender habits, and ambitious views. An encroachment is made on the *claſs of labourers*, to furniſh trade and manufactures with hands, which they do not call for; as the children of the manufacturing towns are ſufficient for their purpoſes. Theſe therefore muſt go, with the pupils of pariſh ſchools, and foundling hoſpitals in London, into the claſſes of thieves and pickpockets. Sunday ſchools would be barbarous priſons for the children of manufacturing towns, who are faſtened to their work all the week; and in other places they will leſſen the number of *labouring peaſants*, which are furniſhed by vagaqond uninſtructed boys, always expoſed to the weather, and accuſtomed to hardſhip.

I have no peace of mind during this election at Weſtminſter!---I wiſh I had thrown the *reins of parliament* into the hands of Fox, inſtead of ſuffering them to be purloined from me by Pitt, Thurlow, and Dundas! *Macnamara* is murdered! This is the conſequence of introducing the ſailors. The ſoldiers would have managed better, with two or three trading juſtices. Who is *Macnamara?* ---An Iriſh gambler and fortune hunter, made into a gentleman by the daughter of old Jones, the

the Lincoln's-inn miſer. What a ſupporter to a *virtuous* adminiſtration! Stackpoole tells a tale; which, if applicable to the loweſt retainer of oppoſition, would furniſh the materials of a pamphlet to Horne Tooke, and innumerable paragraphs in the miniſterial prints. I hope the blockhead will die of his wounds; as a *bloody funeral* would have a good effect; and the tragic event would furniſh our ſtupid hirelings with a ſubject; which they have not talents to invent.

I can hardly believe the old ducheſs of Beaufort, whoſe pride borders on inſanity, would permit her daughter, in the very *depth of oſtentatious woe*, to canvas againſt Townſhend. Rutland was brutalized to a degree, that no woman could regret him.---Queenſbury ſays, and he knows all the *bagatelles* of great families, that while he attempted any thing decent and tolerable in appearance, he was under the direction of Jack Townſhend; who made his ſpeeches, wrote his letters, and was the ciceſbeo of the ducheſs. But the ducheſs *has no heart*; and never made a laſting *impreſſion* on any. In a ſtate of intoxication, he took liberties with her in a coach; and a rupture enſued, which her huſband never reſented. I do not wonder ſhe wiſhes to be revenged on Townſhend; but Charlotte ſays, *it is not for the tranſaction in the coach.*

What a contraſt between this vain unfeeling doll, and the ducheſs of Devonſhire! Animated with intelligence and goodneſs; the friend

friend of merit in every form; I regret the politics that withholds her from court. Charlotte is not fond of her. She draws too much attention; and attention to her, is attachment: for every thing ſhe ſays and does intereſts affection, and heightens eſteem. How firmly attached to Fox! Indeed how juſtly! but he awes my genius, and annihilates majeſty, by his prompt manlineſs, and rapid reſolutions! I will not think of him; though I am ſufficiently ſickened by a profligate bully as the agent of my conſcience, and the joſtling and hypocritical chicanery of Jenkinſon, Pitt, and Dundas.

RECOLLECTION XVII.

SATURDAY, 26.

I SHOULD have had no difficulties from invitations to dinners, but for the attachment of the queen to etiquette. At lord Coventry's, the view of the grounds and park, creates that ſpecies of buſtle in which I delight. But the hills here draw ſhowers; and they reſpect royalty as little as they do beggary. I had a little converſation with Coventry on parental affection. He ſpoke the language of a genuine convert to a ſtep-mother. If George were reduced to the condition of Deerhurſt, I ſhould be obliged to take him to my arms, or the nation would run mad. What does

Coventry

Coventry want? He is profuſe and unremitting in commendations of preſent miniſters and preſent meaſures; and wiſhes they would frequently call upon him to bear his teſtimony in the houſe of lords.

Queenſbury and Aylſbury are arrived. I had ſome jokes with them. I cautioned the old beau to have mercy on the Glouceſterſhire girls, who would drop in covies before the charms of his perſon and addreſs. I ſaw Elizabeth ſurveying his whole figure with ſatyrical curioſity. Charlotte would not forgive me if I were to aſk her thoughts. He is an old battered butterfly; who, if reduced to the exerciſe of his real talents, would hardly keep himſelf from ſtarving as a journeyman taylor. But he has rank, fortune, and parliamentary intereſt both here and in Scotland; and he is always with the miniſter and court.

Aylſbury, with a ſpare and hectic habit, would do well to come here on duty immediately after the honey-moon. He thought it dangerous to permit his lady to canvas at Weſtminſter, after he had ſet her paſſions a-float. But the pretty fellows are all on the other ſide. And we declaim on chaſtity and virtue.

I can obtain no good reaſon, why a perſon of Pitt's youth and health ſhould be averſe to women. Bridget Tollemache ſays, the determination of all the juices are towards his head and lungs. His mother might have

managed

managed matters with Pulteney, on the firſt blaze of Pitt's good fortune; but the daughter could not endure him. She is a ſpirited girl.---Mem.---to aſk Pulteney, why ſhe was educated at a convent; and, why the crown of her head is ſhaved?

Aylſbury will be unhappy, if it be only for having furniture in his chamber. A formaliſt ſhould never marry. Aylſbury's bedchamber had only his bed, and a ſmall cabinet. He undreſſed on the floor, that he might not admit a chair to harbour duſt, and produce fleas. What a revolution his wife will occaſion in his habits!

The idle gentry here are meditating a private play; and they very properly call their club *The Lounge*. It is unaccountable that Richmond, the penurious Richmond, ſhould take the lead in ſuch expenſive amuſements. I have had ſome thoughts of ſuſtaining a part myſelf as a performer; but Charlotte was averſe; and I could not ſuit my fancy. I thought Siddons a good model; maſculine, imperious, and royal; and ſhe read ſeveral plays for me; but my organs moved too rapidly; and the matter was dropped.

RECOLLECTION XVIII.

SUNDAY, 27.

I HAVE played in a religious farce this day. Ay! ſays Charlotte, there you are a

 capital

capital performer! I rumble over the reſponſes, and keep up the noiſe and buſtle of the ſervice with great effect. The corporation of Glouceſter, in meeting me at my entrance, made a groteſque appearance. The duke of Norfolk by the ſide of a tallow-chandler. Auguſta ſaid, he looked a little aſhamed. What a character! and what a ſituation! The firſt duke of the realm, having juſt emancipated the family from the ſhackles of a diſadvantageous ſuperſtition, and without iſſue; the patron of genius, taking little trouble to diſcriminate; and the friend of virtue, with perfect inattention to appearances. If he underſtood his own ſtrength, he might propoſe his terms at St. James's.

The public ſervice was ſplendidly performed. If the clergy were maſters of their profeſſion, we ſhould have no diſſenters or methodiſts; and they would be valuable allies to adminiſtration. I had droll recollections and feelings, when ſeated on the biſhop's throne. Halifax conſigned it to me, I ſuppoſe, as head of the church. I could not help thinking of the various machinations which had been formed on it; and the characters which had occupied it in the gradations of eccleſiaſtical preferment. Among the ſhadows which paſſed before my imagination, Warburton ſeemed the moſt mighty; ---unprincipled, and brutal, he employed his force for the intereſt of the hierarchy, as he would have done for the devil, if he could have

have rewarded and promoted him. Tucker, a ſimilar, but more feeble character, early miſſed his way. He thought to have rendered commerce, as Warburton had rendered poetry, ſubſervient to eccleſiaſtical views. It is nearly over with him; and his deanry may be uſeful at the general election.

MONDAY, 28.

NOT worth recollecting---Charlotte not approving my appearance at a country fair, diſplaying my knowledge as a farmer, and buying a horſe at an extravagant price.

RECOLLECTION XIX.

TUESDAY, 29, AND WEDNESDAY, 30.

I MEANT to have diſtinguiſhed Tueſday by my viſit to George Selwyn; a wit by profeſſion, and with whom I was prepared for a conteſt. But on repeating it, the princeſſes laughed; and Charlotte hoped I would not write it down.

Received an invitation to viſit Briſtol---ſaid I was not well enough to eat turtle. It is a rich, but ſtupid place; and abounds with diſſenters. Apropos---I have had no meſſage from Birmingham----the principal neſt of ſectaries. They imitate all religions there, as they produce falſe coins; and with the ſame views. Prieſtly is reviving ſocinianiſm;

and paſſing for novelties the rags and tatters of a forgotten hereſy. He goes to the very ſhore of infidelity; but he prudently ſtops, where his intereſt will allow no further licenſe---and the man who could not render his talents of importance to the political diſtreſſes of Landſdown, makes a conſiderable income from the verſatile credulity of the *honeſt* people of Birmingham.

Wedneſday evening, I entered, for the firſt time, a country play-houſe; but Charlotte would have it royal, before it received my ſacred perſon. She has an opinion we have ſomething holy about us. If I were to conſecrate a church, it would be peculiarly benefited. I ſuppoſe I ſhall be invited to Birmingham---May I not ſerve a meeting-houſe as I have the play-houſe; and, by a *conſecrating letter*, render it fit for my reception? The king of Pruſſia, on his acceſſion, went to the principal churches of all the ſects in Berlin! The clergy here would not bear the propoſal; and if I were to diſoblige them, Charles Fox would immediately *become a zealot;* and I ſhould find the houſe of commons filled with implacable patriots.

Many of Pitt's private confidants are diſſenters; and yet Pitt is *at heart a tory.* Wilberforce, Beauſoy, and the Thorntons, have ſucked the venom of diſaffection; but they are renegadoes; and acting under a ſpecies of ſhame for their former connections, no real inconvenience is to be apprehended from them.

It

It is remarkable that the fortunes of theſe men ſhould have been made by ſmuggling; and that they ſhould have ſuggeſted Pitt's meaſures againſt it. I have been well aſſured, that an old ſinner in one of thoſe families, who in the famous connection of Hull, Liverpool, and Clapham, made prodigious ſums by ſmuggling tobacco, allots fifteen hundred, or two thouſand a year to reſcue his ſoul from the devil. Should it not be paid into the treaſury, and not in charity? for by taking the merit of charity, he defeats every effect of reſtitution; and the devil will have him ſurely as if he did not beſtow a ſhilling. Dundas would manage ſuch a fellow very well, if he were amenable to the board of controul; and would direct his conſcience into the proper channel. If Dundas had any equity in ſharing the fruits of his manœuvres, he would be the beſt miniſter in Great Britain. ---He ſecures the prize, and leaves not a trace of the tranſaction.

THURSDAY, 31.

INVITATION to Hereford from lord Oxford---The queen put me in mind of the cyder-tax.

RECOLLECTION XX.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1.

THIS is the anniverſary of the acceſſion of our family to the Engliſh throne: an event

event celebrated for ſome time with enthuſiaſm by the friends of liberty; but the enthuſiaſm has evaporated *on their familiarity with its bleſſings.* The Stuarts were ill-adviſed:---the real power of the crown was never ſo great as at the preſent moment; but it is not aſſuming and tyrannical; it always moves in a maſque, and ſaps the rights of the people unperceived. The lords will ſoon be as numerous as the commons; ---the exciſe will be univerſal;---the police will reſt on the army;---and taxes will be levied by *farmers general.* Pitt has made conſiderable progreſs in the attainment of theſe objects, and without alarm; for the people only are injured. Fox ſtumbled on an iniquitous, but powerful monopoly; and the danger of the India Company alarmed all the *chartered villainies* of the kingdom.---We had the addreſs to call this patriotiſm; and Fox was loſt. The annihilation of all the charters in the kingdom would be a national bleſſing of *inſtimable magnitude.*---The miniſter who extends the exciſe over the ſmalleſt village, on any pretences whatſoever, ſhould be torn to pieces by its inhabitants, if the objects of government were liberty and happineſs.

We drank the punch dry, in honour of the day: and the band playing "the lad's alive." I could not help capering a little before lady Mary Bowlby, and crying out "the lad's "alive;" and I do not yet mean to die.

Lady

Lady Mary is prim and ſententious about muſic. I love plain intelligible old tunes, and the noiſe of Handel's choruſſes. The commemoration of Handel will turn to good account.---Jenkinſon learnt the mode of combining charity with intereſt, of the duke of Northumberland; who preſided at hoſpitals, and encouraged ſubſcriptions wherever he could ſecure votes; and Jenkinſon will render even a muſical fund, an engine of influence. A hint has been given of a literary fund; and the committee of the privy council is enquiring its deſtination. Care muſt be taken to prevent the independence of men of letters; and if the plan be introduced, it muſt be regulated to *our* views *by the clergy*. Prettyman adviſes the idea of proviſion for poor curates to be tacked to it, which would frighten away the ſubſcribers, or ſecure the management in our intereſt.---Mem. to be very attentive to this buſineſs, as it is of great importance. If the preſs were free from influence and power, *government would be modified in a few months*.

The duke of York has brought down Bunbury.---My face will not *bear caricature*; and this Frederic muſt tell Bunbury. George laughs at my calling Frederic "the hope of "the family;"---I mean only in prudence. I am very ſenſible *George is worth all the houſes of Hanover and Mecklenburg, in real talents and diſpoſitions of mind*. But I dread his popularity; and muſt contrive that his

youth-

youthful imprudences be regarded by the people through *reflectors*. Frederic covers a little mind, deſtitute of important information and good qualities, with the veil of prudence and œconomy. If Frederic were king; Lanſdown, miniſter; Pitt, chancellor of the exchequer; Weſley, archbiſhop; and Weſcott and Eden, ſecretaries of ſtate,---government would be effective from its *harmony;* and it might rival that of Cromwell in hypocriſy.

Saturday, Auguſt the 2d, Sunday, 3d, unproductive of new events.---Monday, 4th, heavy from preſentiment on the fate of the Weſtminſter election.

RECOLLECTION XXI.

TUESDAY, 5.

DREADFULLY alarmed--The *idiotic World* brought in *mourning* for the diſcomfiture of Hood. The queen ſhrieked: her children being diſperſed over the earth and waters, and not encouraging any reaſonable hopes. They have been dreadfully educated; and they make proper returns. The younger ſprouts had no ſooner touched the ſoil of Germany, but they diſcovered their nature: they have abandoned all appearance of ſtudy and reſtraint; and are emulating the ſailor in low diſſipation, and the arts of licentious and petty deſpotiſm.

Pitt

Pitt is taken ill at the event of the Weſtminſter election.---The ſailors ſhould not have been introduced. Fox is the favourite of the common people; and they were furniſhed with a pretence for riot and violence. Horne Tooke, and *our* newſpapers, are to "cry thief firſt."---But the arts of Bow-ſtreet and of St. Giles will not do: the manner of aſſembling the ſailors was too bungling:---artful occaſions have been created for the *guards*.---They are only *armed citizens;* and with a little addreſs in their introduction, they may terrify, maim, and murder thoſe who are unarmed, whenever the views of adminiſtration are endangered.

With the impreſſion of this defeat, however, I am obliged to viſit Worceſter.---Hurd has a beautiful and noble ſituation at Hartlebury, in the centre of his dioceſe; with power and privileges which I do not enjoy at Windſor. And of what is this the reward? Of his claſſic taſte and learning, there may be no real doubts, though ſome are ſuggeſted. Is it the reward of his theological, moral, and political writings, which are only ſuſtained above contempt by cautious plauſibility, and a laboured ſmoothneſs of ſtyle? Is it the reward *of his education of my ſon?* --the prop of my years, and the *hope of my kingdoms?* If rewards were adminiſtered with a retroſpect to duty or merit, a cell in Newgate ſhould have been ſubſtituted for the charming reſidence at Hartlebury.

" Set a beggar on horſeback," they ſay, " and he will ride furiouſly." He has diſplayed here the power and inclination of a tyrant. A village ſkirts a romantic common, which is a mere circumſtance in the light and ſhadow of the landſcapes from the caſtle. The inhabitants are rapidly increaſing by the introduction of manufactures: they applied to Hurd to incloſe, and build on the waſte; and alleged their own accommodation, the encouragement of manufactures, and the future benefit of the biſhoprick. He anſwered, " the biſhoprick " will not be benefited in *my time*; and as " to trade and manufactures, they are too " much encouraged; they deſtroy all order " and ſubordination; and foſter inſolence " and independence. You ſhall not have an " inch of the waſte."--This is truly epiſcopal!

The ſituation of Worceſter is pleaſant: the ſtreets are ſpacious, and the houſes look cleanly. The country muſt be very populous, or the people very fooliſh; for the crouds were ſo great that we could hardly make our way into the town.

RECOLLECTION XXII.

WEDNESDAY, 6.

THE wretched inhabitants had no ſleep laſt night, underſtanding I ſhould traverſe the town at five or ſix in the morning.

I aſked

I aſked the mayor---a curious figure! -- how long ſince they had been viſited by a king? He knew nothing of the matter; but referred me to Dr. Naſh, a clerical antiquarian. Hunt, at Cheltenham, had pointed him out to me as a brother-in-law to Martin, the *ſtarling;* and had intimated, that Martin's tongue might be regulated by the ractions of Naſh in Worceſter cathedral---This hint to Thurlow. But Thurlow is ſuch a bear! What a breakfaſt for a whale, if he, Stafford, and his *amiable* wife, and the metropolitan, and his wife, had been drowned in their watery excurſion at Scarborough! I filled up their places, in imagination, on the firſt hint of ſuch a poſſibility.

I felt a pang at being informed the laſt monarch who viſited Worceſter was James II. The Henrys, and the Edwards, were familiar in every important part of their dominions; and they honoured this place with their preſence at great and ſolemn feſtivals. But the moſt memorable and melancholy event of this region, is the arrival and defeat of Charles II.---Pitt and Jenkinſon are ever aſſociating Oliver Cromwell and Charles Fox; but I own I cannot ſee the ſimilitude.

I received the addreſs of the corporation and clergy. I did not want to be informed they were at my devotion. Worceſter has been among the foremoſt in addreſſing the crown on all occaſions. In the commencement of the American war, and in every ef-

fort for its continuance, it exhibited its courtly ſervility. What a group of magiſtrates and aldermen!---ſeveral of them have been found guilty of bribery at different elections! The corporation always ſupports a nabob, or a creature of adminiſtration. It is much under the influence of Coventry, who is the recorder; and he is particularly devoted to me, in the hopes that my conduct to George, may juſtify his cruelty to Deerhurſt. But George has not yet a ſtep-mother; and the nation would not endure in him the fate of poor Deerhurſt.

THURSDAY, 7.

VISITED the ground on which the battle of Worceſter was fought; but had not ſpirits to examine it. Would have ſeen the royal oak; but was informed in time, that the place was at too great a diſtance; that the tree was dead: and an *heir apparent* ſprouting up.---I have no fancy for heirs apparent.

FRIDAY, 8.

RECEIVED the trades, with their ridiculous inſignia. I like the produce of trade; but I am of Hurd's opinion about tradeſmen. Viſited the china manufactory:---the place has a moſt infernal appearance. They tell me thoſe large fires breed ſalamanders.---Muſt conſult Banks upon that buſineſs. The man who deſcribed the works to me, carries tobacco

tobacco in his mouth---Charlotte ſays he ſmelt horribly. I find mixing with my people attended with many diſagreeable circumſtances.---God grant we may return ſafe to Windſor! The attendance at the church and concert had no novelty to me, whatever it had to the ſpectators.---I am tired of one place.

RECOLLECTION XXIII.

SATURDAY, 9.

RETURNED to Cheltenham, where the people ſeemed tired of me. Sir James Harris in London; and the Iriſh provoſt on his way here.--Sir James muſt be made a lord.---lords will be as ridiculous as Margaret Nicholſon's knights. The nation is completely duped in the Dutch buſineſs.---We aſſiſted the king of Pruſſia in cramming the privileges of the ſtadtholder into the throats of the Dutch, without attending to the charge of having forfeited them.

Hutchinſon is gaſping for the chancellorſhip. He is an *Iriſh ſhark*; inſatiable in the purſuit of places and penſions; and ready for any ſervices to obtain them;---but an Engliſhman muſt fill the place---Jenkinſon ſays, he has the authority of Monteſquieu for excluding the natives. We have walked to the theatre. It had a rural air; but my ſentiments are never rural!

Sunday,

Sunday, 11, Nothing. ---- Monday, 12, George's birth-day. I had ſome thoughts on parental love; but I diſmiſſed them. I am called the father of my people---in what ſenſe?

CONCLUDING RECOLLECTION.

THE 13th, 14th, and 15th, I paſſed in viſits to the biſhop of Saliſbury, Sir George Paul, and Martin the *ſtarling*, near Tewkeſbury: very different characters, according to Hunt. The firſt was formed in a puritanic mould: his father and mother being ſtrict diſſenters; but the children have underſtood their intereſt better; and the biſhop, in the true ſpirit of a renegado, has oppoſed every extenſion of indulgence to his father's friends: ---this proves the ſincerity of his converſion! Sir George is an oſtentatious mechanic; and Martin is vain of his apparent honeſty. Jenkinſon ſays, he affords a good *teſt of practicability* in the houſe; for voting always by confidence, and not by judgment, when an artifice reaches *his* underſtanding, it is too groſs to paſs; and it is high time to withdraw it; but the political conſtitution may be frittered into a thouſand atoms before ſuch underſtandings perceive the danger. I wiſh we had more ſuch *honeſt men!* I highly like

like Hunt's ſketches of Glouceſterſhire characters.

SATURDAY, 16.

RETURNED to Windſor; and ſuſpended my Recollections to another excurſion.

FINIS.